

## **CEPPS/IRI Quarterly Report: April - June 2005**

**COUNTRY: Uzbekistan**

**USAID Cooperative Agreement No. 116-A-00-04-00010-00**

**Award period: September 30, 2004 – September 29, 2005**

**Total budget: \$125,000**

**Expenses to date: \$44,750**

### **I. SUMMARY**

As stated in the second quarter report, in March the Uzbekistan Ministry of Justice rejected IRI Resident Country Director Greg Stephenson's accreditation. He was given a visa until June 23. Accordingly, Mr. Stephenson left IRI and departed the country. This resulted in the temporary suspension of IRI's programming in Uzbekistan.

IRI's Tashkent office remains open, with a local assistant program officer in a custodial role. This programming hiatus will be in effect while IRI both reassesses its program in Uzbekistan given recent political developments within the country, and identifies a new resident program director.

### **II. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

Program objectives as stated in the work plan are:

- A. Democracy education at the makhalla (the smallest political unit in Uzbekistan) level to inform community leaders and voters of their rights, voting procedures, the responsibilities of the election commissions, understanding an election campaign, and the responsibilities of their elected officials.
- B. Democracy education for youth to help them understand participatory democracy, the current system governing Uzbekistan, and how young adults today can build a knowledge base for representative government to take root in Uzbekistan.
- C. Maintain one Democracy Information Center (DIC) each in Fergana Valley and Tashkent oblast. The DICs will be established with DRL funding, and maintained under CEPPS II funding.

Due to circumstances described in the Summary above, IRI suspended programming activity during this quarter.

IRI's Eurasia Deputy Director visited Tashkent in April for two days of meetings. She met with Ambassador Purnell and U.S. embassy staff, USAID, expatriate staff of Freedom House, the National Democratic Institute, Human Rights Watch and Counterpart International, and members of the local Political Science Association, the latter a group IRI was building a programming relationship with prior to the interruption of work. In Washington, D.C., IRI's Central Asia program officer met with founding members of the new coalition of national unity Serkuesh Uzbekistonim based in Tashkent.

### III. RESULTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### **Expected Result 1: More engaged electorate at the makhalla level.**

Indicators:

- A. Makhalla contact and relationship-building with Oliy Majlis deputy on pertinent issues
- B. Makhalla use of DICs
- C. Makhalla outreach (direct or through local media) to residents/voters, including young adults

*No results to report.*

#### **Expected Result 2: Youth more knowledgeable and engaged in political advocacy.**

Indicators:

- A. Youth volunteers and involvement at DICs
- B. Youth membership in a political action group (club, movement, NGO, party)
- C. Youth participation in the makhalla.

**Performance for Indicator A:** *No results to report.*

**Performance for Indicator B:** *No results to report.*

**Performance for Indicator C:** *No results to report.*

#### **Expected Result 3: Established Democracy Information Centers for the voting public.**

Indicators:

- A. Two DIC operating, developing, and planning for sustainability
- B. Local voting community use of DICs (voters, schools, NGOs, etc.)

**Performance for Indicator A:** *No new results to report.*

**Performance for Indicator B:** *No new results to report.*